GOVERNMENT OF INDIA COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1166
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2010
TRADE THROUGH ATTARI -WAGAH BORDER
Sardinha Shri Francisco

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether trade is being operated through Attari-Wagah border;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of countries with which trade is operated through border;
- (c) the amount of trade with each country during the last three years; and
- (d) the potential of trade in ensuing year alongwith the names of commodities?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

- (a) Yes, Madam.
- (b) The countries with which trade is allowed through Attari Wagha are Pakistan and Afghanistan. For trade by road, Pakistan has allowed Wagah border only for importing certain essential commodities from India. There is not much bi-lateral trade with Afghanistan through this land route, due to trade transit issues.
- (c) The volume of India's trade with Pakistan and Afghanistan is as follows:

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India - Pakistan bilateral trade in US$ million

Year Exports to Imports from Total Trade
   Pakistan Pakistan

2007 -08 1951 288 2239
2008 - 09 1440 370 1810
2009 - 10(P) 1572 275 1847
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India - Afghanistan bilateral trade in US\$ million

Year Exports to Imports from Total Trade Afghanistan Afghanistan

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2007 -08 249 110 359
2008 - 09 394 126 520
2009 - 10 (P) 464 125 589
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Source: DGCI &S Kolkata through NIC DOC

(d) There is potential to increase Bi-lateral trade with both Pakistan and Afghanistan. India's thrust areas of export could be petroleum products, basic chemicals, raw cotton/textiles, engineering goods and pharmaceuticals. Import potential from Pakistan exists in Textiles, Cement, Agricultural products and from Afghanistan in agriculture produce and minerals.